

**ABSTRACT**COMMUNICATION NETWORK

- 5 A network for communicating with a plurality of radiotelephones via respective communication channels over timeslots on a carrier, wherein the channels can operate at a first or second data rate such that a timeslot on the carrier can transmit a single communication channel operating at the first data rate or two communication channels operating at the second data rate, the network
- 10 comprising a controller responsive to a predetermined condition for initiating a change in the data rate of two channels transmitted on separate timeslots from the first data rate to the second data rate.

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(Figure 1)